

Appln. No. 10/775,288  
Amdt. Dated May 5, 2006  
Reply to Office Action of March 13, 2006

## REMARKS

### Status of the claims

Claims 1-14 are now pending. Claims 15-46 are now cancelled. Claim 47 is new.

### **REMARKS**

In an Office Action mailed on March 13, 2006, the Examiner restricted Applicants' claims as drawn to independent and distinct inventions. Specifically, the Examiner restricted the claims into four groups, namely Group I consisting of claims 1-14, Group II consisting of claims 15-25, and Group III consisting of claims 26-32, and Group IV consisting of claims 33-46. In response, Applicants hereby formally elect Group I without traverse.

Applicants have cancelled non-elected claims 15-46 without prejudice and reserve the right to prosecute non-elected claims in a later divisional application. Applicants respectfully submit that the claims are now in condition for allowance.

If the Examiner has any questions or comments, or otherwise feels it would be advantageous, he is encouraged to telephone the undersigned at (713) 238-8043.

Respectfully submitted,



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